

MTN/NTM/17
24 May 1976

Special Distribution

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Group "Non-Tariff Measures"

Sub-Group "Technical Barriers to Trade"

MEETING OF MAY 1976

Summing-up by the Chairman

1. At the end of the meeting the Chairman summed up on his own responsibility in the following terms.
2. The Sub-Group met from 17 to 21 May 1976.
3. It invited the Secretary General of UNCTAD or his representative to attend this session of the Sub-Group as an observer.
4. The Sub-Group noted the communications received from Chairmen of other Groups or Sub-Groups in accordance with the suggestion of the Chairman of the Trade Negotiations Committee (MTN/W/24, paragraph 8; MTN/NTM/W/47).
5. The Sub-Group discussed the definitions to be used in the draft Standards Code. It agreed to base these definitions on the ECE/ISO definitions, only departing from these to the extent necessary for the purposes of the draft Code. The Sub-Group also had a detailed discussion of proposals relating to the definitions.
6. The Sub-Group requested Mr. K. Bergholm (Finland) to prepare a paper setting out the differences between Hypothesis B definitions and the ECE/ISO definitions and the reasons for these, to verify if any definitions could be deleted from the text of the draft Code without affecting its quality, and to ensure informally that there was effective liaison with ECE and ISO on questions relating to the definitions.
7. The Sub-Group discussed those proposals relating to the operative provisions in the draft Code which were not examined in detail at its last meeting and had a preliminary discussion of a limited number of new proposals.

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8. The Sub-Group decided that points agreed during these discussions should be incorporated in the text of the draft Standards Code on which the Sub-Group's work is based.¹ It also requested the secretariat to revise the document setting out the proposals before the Sub-Group in the light of its discussions at the meeting.²

9. The Sub-Group suggested that the time had come for the review of the applicability of the draft Standards Code to agricultural and tropical products referred to in paragraph 2 of MTN/NTM/1 to be initiated.

10. The Sub-Group agreed that the date of its next meeting should be fixed by Group "Non-Tariff Measures". Two specific suggestions were made with regard to the date for the opening of the meeting: 4 October and 8 November 1976.

¹To be issued as MTN/NTM/W/49

²To be issued as MTN/NTM/W/50